



S. KIMBERLY BELSHE
SECRETARY

**Agency
Departments &
Boards:**

Aging

Alcohol and
Drug Programs

Child Support
Services

Community Services
and Development

Developmental
Services

Emergency Medical
Services Authority

Health Services

Health and
Human Services
Data Center

Managed Risk
Medical Insurance

Mental Health

Rehabilitation

Social Services

Statewide Health
Planning and
Development

MEDI-CAL FACTS

General

- Medi-Cal is California's Medicaid program, providing health care coverage for 6.8 million low-income children and parents, pregnant women, seniors and people with disabilities.
- Medi-Cal is jointly funded with federal and state dollars and is administered by the California Department of Health Services.
- According to The Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation, California ranks 28th in the nation in per capita Medicaid expenditures. The state spends less per beneficiary than most other states due to a variety of factors, including program efficiencies and a lower percentage of elderly and disabled beneficiaries.
- While Medi-Cal is one of the most cost-effective Medicaid programs in the nation, continuing growth in health care costs and enrollment threaten the program's long-term financial viability and jeopardize the state's ability to fund other programs.
- Medi-Cal provides health coverage and long-term care assistance to one in six Californians under age 65. Children account for more than half of all Medi-Cal beneficiaries.
- Among California's 6.6 million uninsured individuals (782,000 children), 24 percent may be eligible for Medi-Cal or the Healthy Families Program.

Financial

- Medi-Cal brought \$19.6 billion in federal funds to California in 2004-05, which was paid to counties, health plans and health care providers.
- The May Revision for the 2005-06 fiscal year includes total Medi-Cal expenditures of \$34.6 billion (\$12.9 billion General Fund). General Fund expenditures for Medi-Cal have increased by \$1 billion, or 9.2 percent, over the 2004-05 level.
- Medi-Cal spending currently constitutes about 15 percent of all General Fund expenditures, second only to K-12 education. If current trends continue without meaningful reform, Medi-Cal expenditures will grow to 21 percent (\$29 billion) of all General Fund expenditures in 10 years.
- Medi-Cal pays \$1 out of every \$6 spent on health care in California, enrolls one quarter of community health center and public hospital patients and accounts for two-thirds of revenues at California's public hospitals.
- Medi-Cal's average growth of 8.5 percent in the next 10 years will outpace a 6 percent growth rate for state revenues.

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- Twenty-five percent of beneficiaries account for 94 percent of all Medi-Cal costs.
- Seniors and individuals with disabilities account for only 23 percent of beneficiaries, but account for 57 percent of expenditures.
- The top 5 percent of enrollees incurred more than 60 percent of all Medi-Cal costs. Virtually all enrollees in the top fifth cost percentile are adults.
- In 2004, California moved from 51st to 28th in the nation in the amount of federal Medicaid funding received on a per enrollee basis.
- Hospital care accounts for 29 percent of all Medi-Cal expenditures.
- Medi-Cal accounts for 64 percent of net revenues at public hospitals.

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